

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Alexandria Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

PETER RAFAEL DZIBINSKI DEBBINS,

Defendant.

No. 1:20-CR-193

PLEA AGREEMENT

G. Zachary Terwilliger, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; undersigned counsel for the United States; the defendant, Peter Rafael Dzibinski Debbins; and the defendant's counsel have entered into an agreement pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The terms of this Plea Agreement are as follows:

1. Offense and Maximum Penalties

The defendant agrees to plead guilty to Count One of the Indictment, charging the defendant with conspiracy to gather or deliver defense information to aid a foreign government, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 794(a) & (c). As set forth in the accompanying statement of facts, the national defense information that is the subject of this conspiracy and the terms of this plea agreement was, and is, classified at the Secret level. The maximum penalties for this offense are: a maximum term of life in prison, a fine of \$250,000, a special assessment pursuant to 18 U.S.C § 3013, and a maximum supervised release term of five years. The defendant understands that any supervised release term is in addition to any prison term the defendant may receive, and that a violation of a term of supervised release could result in the defendant being returned to prison for the full term of supervised release.

2. Detention Pending Sentencing

The defendant understands that this case is governed by 18 U.S.C. §§ 3143(a)(2) and 3145(c). These provisions provide that a judicial officer shall order that a person who has been found guilty of an offense of this kind be detained unless there are statutory justifications why such person's detention would not be appropriate.

3. Factual Basis for the Plea

The defendant will plead guilty because the defendant is in fact guilty of the charged offense. The defendant admits the facts set forth in the Statement of Facts filed with this Plea Agreement and agrees that those facts establish guilt of the offense charged beyond a reasonable doubt. The Statement of Facts, which is hereby incorporated into this Plea Agreement, constitutes a stipulation of facts for purposes of Section 1B1.2(c) of the Sentencing Guidelines.

4. Assistance and Advice of Counsel

The defendant is satisfied that the defendant's attorney has rendered effective assistance. The defendant understands that by entering into this Plea Agreement, the defendant surrenders certain rights as provided in this agreement. The defendant understands that the rights of criminal defendants include the following:

- a. the right to plead not guilty and to persist in that plea;
- b. the right to a jury trial;
- c. the right to be represented by counsel—and, if necessary, have the court appoint counsel—at trial and at every other stage of the proceedings; and
- d. the right at trial to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, to be protected from compelled self-incrimination, to testify and present evidence, and to compel the attendance of witnesses.

The defendant further understands that by entering into this Plea Agreement, the defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives any claim that the statements he made to the

Federal Bureau of Investigation should be suppressed based on the Fifth Amendment to, or any other provision of, the U.S. Constitution.

5. Sentencing Guidelines, Recommendations, and Roles

The defendant understands that the Court has jurisdiction and authority to impose any sentence within the statutory maximum described above, but that the Court will determine the defendant's actual sentence in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). The defendant understands that the Court has not yet determined a sentence and that any estimate of the advisory sentencing range under the U.S. Sentencing Commission's Sentencing Guidelines Manual the defendant may have received from the defendant's counsel, the United States, or the Probation Office, is a prediction, not a promise, and is not binding on the United States, the Probation Office, or the Court. Additionally, pursuant to the Supreme Court's decision in *United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005), the Court, after considering the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), may impose a sentence above or below the advisory sentencing range, subject only to review by higher courts for reasonableness. The United States makes no promise or representation concerning what sentence the defendant will receive, and the defendant cannot withdraw a guilty plea based upon the actual sentence.

Further, in accordance with Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B), the United States and the defendant stipulate and will recommend to the Court that the following provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines apply:

Guidelines	Description	Offense Level
2M3.1(a)(2)	Base offense level (Gathering or Transmitting National Defense Information to Aid a Foreign Government)	37
3B1.3	Abuse of Position of Trust or Use of Special Skill	+2

The United States and the defendant further agree that the defendant has assisted the government in the investigation and prosecution of the defendant's own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of the defendant's intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the government and the Court to allocate their resources efficiently. If the defendant qualifies for a two-level decrease in offense level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a) and the offense level prior to the operation of that section is a level 16 or greater, the government agrees to file, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b), a motion prior to, or at the time of, sentencing for an additional one-level decrease in the defendant's offense level.

The United States and the defendant have not agreed on any further sentencing issues, whether related to the Sentencing Guidelines or the factors listed in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), other than those set forth above or elsewhere in this Plea Agreement. Any stipulation on a Guidelines provision does not limit the parties' arguments as to any other Guidelines provisions or sentencing factors under Section 3553(a), including arguments for a sentence within or outside the advisory Guidelines range found by the Court at sentencing.

6. Waiver of Appeal, FOIA, and Privacy Act Rights

The defendant also understands that 18 U.S.C. § 3742 affords a defendant the right to appeal the sentence imposed. Nonetheless, the defendant knowingly waives the right to appeal the conviction and any sentence within the statutory maximum described above (or the manner in which that sentence was determined) on the grounds set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3742 or on any ground whatsoever other than an ineffective assistance of counsel claim that is cognizable on direct appeal, in exchange for the concessions made by the United States in this Plea Agreement. This agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in 18

U.S.C. § 3742(b). The defendant also hereby waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including without limitation any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, or the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.

7. Immunity from Further Prosecution in This District

The United States will not further criminally prosecute the defendant in the Eastern District of Virginia for the specific conduct described in the Indictment or Statement of Facts, except that the United States may prosecute the defendant for any crime of violence or conspiracy to commit, or aiding and abetting, a crime of violence not charged in the Indictment as an offense. In such a prosecution, the United States may allege and prove conduct described in the Indictment or Statement of Facts. “Crime of violence” has the meaning set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 16.

8. Payment of Monetary Penalties and Potential Loss of Benefits

The defendant understands and agrees that, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3613 and 18 U.S.C. § 3572, all monetary penalties imposed by the Court, including restitution, will be due immediately and subject to immediate enforcement by the United States as provided for in Section 3613. Within 14 days of a request, the defendant agrees to provide all of the defendant’s financial information to the United States and the Probation Office and, if requested, to participate in a pre-sentencing debtor’s examination and/or complete a financial statement under penalty of perjury. If the Court imposes a schedule of payments, the defendant understands that the schedule of payments is merely a minimum schedule of payments and not the only method, nor a limitation on the methods, available to the United States to enforce the judgment. Until all

monetary penalties are paid in full, the defendant will be referred to the Treasury Offset Program so that any federal payment or transfer of returned property to the defendant will be offset and applied to pay the defendant's unpaid monetary penalties. If the defendant is incarcerated, the defendant agrees to participate voluntarily in the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, regardless of whether the Court specifically directs participation or imposes a schedule of payments. Defendant agrees to make good-faith efforts toward payment of all monetary penalties imposed by the Court.

The defendant understands the potential consequences of this conviction set forth in 5 U.S.C. § 8312.

9. Special Assessment

Before sentencing in this case, the defendant agrees to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100 per felony count of conviction, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013(a)(2)(A).

10. Non-Disclosure Agreements

The defendant acknowledges that, in connection with his employment by the U.S. Department of Defense (including his employment with agencies, components, and contractors of the U.S. Department of Defense), he entered into certain agreements proscribing the unauthorized disclosure of classified information, confidential information, and other information acquired as a part of the defendant's performance of his official duties. The defendant acknowledges his continuing duties and obligations under those agreements, and they are hereby incorporated by reference.

The defendant understands his continuing legal obligation to refrain from the unauthorized oral or written disclosure of information belonging to the U.S. government or acquired by virtue of his U.S. government employment or derived from the activities that

resulted in his conviction. Should the defendant at any time author or participate in the creation of any book, writing, article, film, documentary, or other production, or otherwise provide information for purposes of publication or dissemination, including but not limited to information provided through interviews with writers or representatives of any media organization or entity, the defendant hereby agrees first to submit in a timely fashion such book, writing, article, film, documentary, or other production, or information, to the U.S. Department of Defense for timely pre-publication review and deletion of information which, in the discretion of the U.S. Department of Defense, should not be published or disseminated on the grounds of national security or on any other grounds as are already the subject of the defendant's pre-existing agreements with the U.S. Department of Defense.

The defendant agrees that he will notify U.S. Department of Defense in a timely manner of any contacts he intends to have with any representative of the media in order to ensure that a representative of the U.S. Department of Defense and/or other intelligence community representative is present, unless such presence is explicitly waived by the U.S. Department of Defense, to monitor the information being disseminated and, if necessary, to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information. Such contacts include, but are not limited to, contacts in person, contacts by electronic means, and contacts via public or private mail carrier.

12. Assignment of Any Profits or Proceeds from Publicity

The defendant hereby assigns to the United States any profits or proceeds which he may be entitled to receive in connection with any publication or dissemination of information relating to his work with the U.S. Department of Defense, his unlawful activities, the facts and circumstances leading to his apprehension and conviction, or acquired from U.S. Department of Defense files, and agrees that any such profits and/or proceeds constitute the proceeds of his

unlawful activity for purposes of 18 U.S.C. § 794(d)(1)(A). This assignment shall include all profits and proceeds for the benefit of the defendant, regardless of whether such profits and proceeds are payable to himself or to others, directly or indirectly, for his benefit or for the benefit of the defendant's associates or a current or future member of the defendant's family. The defendant shall not circumvent this assignment by assigning the rights to his story to an associate or to a current or future member of the defendant's family, or to another person or entity who would provide some financial benefit to the defendant, to the defendant's associates, or to a current or future member of the defendant's family. Moreover, the defendant shall not circumvent this assignment by communicating with an associate or a family member for the purpose of assisting or facilitating their profiting from a public dissemination, whether such an associate or other family member is personally or directly involved in such dissemination.

13. No Foreign Agent Contacts

The defendant shall have no contact with any foreign government or agents thereof, except with the express permission of the U.S. Department of Defense, and shall not seek or knowingly accept, personally or through another person or entity, any benefit from such foreign government or agent thereof, and should such a benefit be received by the defendant, or some other person or entity on his behalf, he hereby assigns any such benefit to the United States. For purposes of this paragraph, any benefit provided to an associate of the defendant or to a current or future family member of the defendant, which is related to, arises out of, or in recognition of, the defendant's unlawful activities, is a benefit deemed provided to the defendant himself.

14. Conditions of Incarceration

The defendant is aware of the provisions of 28 C.F.R. § 501.2 governing conditions of incarceration in national security cases and acknowledges that the United States reserves the right to exercise these provisions.

15. Breach of the Plea Agreement and Remedies

This Plea Agreement is effective when signed by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, and an attorney for the United States. The defendant agrees to entry of this Plea Agreement at the date and time scheduled with the Court by the United States (in consultation with the defendant's attorney). If the defendant withdraws from this agreement, or commits or attempts to commit any additional federal, state, or local crimes, or intentionally gives materially false, incomplete, or misleading testimony or information, or otherwise violates any provision of this agreement, then:


- a. The United States will be released from its obligations under this agreement. The defendant, however, may not withdraw the guilty plea entered pursuant to this agreement.
- b. The defendant will be subject to prosecution for any federal criminal violation, including, but not limited to, perjury and obstruction of justice, that is not time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations on the date this agreement is signed. Notwithstanding the subsequent expiration of the statute of limitations, in any such prosecution, the defendant agrees to waive any statute-of-limitations defense.
- c. Any prosecution, including the prosecution that is the subject of this agreement, may be premised upon any information provided, or statements made, by the defendant, and all such information, statements, and leads derived therefrom may be used against the defendant. The defendant waives any right to claim that statements made before or after the date of this agreement, including the Statement of Facts accompanying this agreement or adopted by the defendant and any other statements made pursuant to this or any other agreement with the United States, should be excluded or suppressed under Fed. R. Evid. 410, Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(f), the Sentencing Guidelines, or any other provision of the Constitution or federal law.

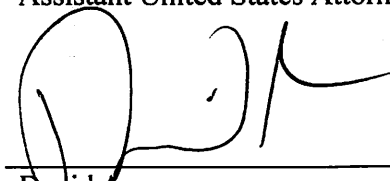
Any alleged breach of this agreement by either party shall be determined by the Court in an appropriate proceeding at which the defendant's disclosures and documentary evidence shall be admissible and at which the moving party shall be required to establish a breach of this Plea Agreement by a preponderance of the evidence.

16. Nature of the Agreement and Modifications

This written agreement constitutes the complete plea agreement between the United States, the defendant, and the defendant's counsel. The defendant and the defendant's attorney acknowledge that no threats, promises, or representations have been made, nor agreements reached, other than those set forth in writing in this Plea Agreement or any associated documents filed with the Court, to cause the defendant to plead guilty. Any modification of this Plea Agreement shall be valid only as set forth in writing in a supplemental or revised plea agreement signed by all parties.


G. Zachary Terwilliger
United States Attorney

By: 
Thomas W. Traxler
James L. Trump
Assistant United States Attorneys

By: 
David Aaron
Trial Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice


Defendant's Signature: I hereby agree that I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand all rights with respect to the pending criminal Indictment. Further, I fully understand all rights with respect to 18 U.S.C. § 3553 and the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines Manual that may apply in my case. I have read this Plea Agreement and carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. I understand this agreement and voluntarily agree to it.

Date: 11/18/20


Peter Rafael Dzibinski Debbins

Defense Counsel's Signature: I am counsel for the defendant in this case. I have fully explained to the defendant the defendant's rights with respect to the pending Indictment. Further, I have reviewed 18 U.S.C. § 3553 and the Sentencing Guidelines Manual, and I have fully explained to the defendant the provisions that may apply in this case. I have carefully reviewed every part of this Plea Agreement with the defendant. To my knowledge, the defendant's decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary one.

Date: 11/18/20


Rammy G. Barbari
Counsel for the Defendant